



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site (www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Siskiyou County
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)

Approximate Center of Shortage Area
(or Location of Position if Type III): Yreka or Etna, Ca.
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: ☐ Moderate Priority ☒ High Priority ☐ Critical Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)

☐ **Type I Shortage: Private Practice**
Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 80 percent time or 32 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one)

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

May cover

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

☒ **Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area**
Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30 percent time or 12 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one)

- ☒ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

May cover

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☒ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☒ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

☐ **Type III Shortage: Public Practice** (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:

- ☐ Food Safety
☐ Public Health
☐ Epidemiology
☐ Other: _____

Please describe the importance and objectives of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

Siskiyou is a relatively remote part of the State of California with a significant beef cattle population. Having veterinary involvement in an area such as this is extremely important for disease detection, as well as for food safety concerns. An accredited veterinarian practicing in this area is a key component to the early detection system protecting the California livestock industry from emerging diseases and from Foreign Animal Diseases (FAD). The major interstate highway serving California, Oregon, and Washington passes through Siskiyou County. Whether introduced intentionally or unintentionally via an FAD could be introduced easily along this route. Because of the remoteness of the cattle population and the interaction with wildlife, including the native deer population, a delayed detection of an FAD where the disease has the opportunity to become entrenched in the area could be very costly to the State.

Another reason for the need is that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has initiated a plan to address antimicrobial resistance by requiring veterinarian supervision for use of medically important antimicrobials as of 2016. This will accentuate the need for producers to have access to a veterinarian.

Veterinarians assure animal health and well-being which are important to producers and food safety.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The veterinarian would perform the typical duties of a food animal practitioner, including, but not limited to: pregnancy diagnosis, dystocia or obstetrical difficulties, *FAD surveillance*, semen evaluation, trichomonosis testing and diagnosis, and overall herd health practices (vaccination, castration, and testing requirements for state and federal regulations). Additionally, as stated previously the practitioner is going to have ever increasing role in antimicrobial use as FDA implements their judicious use strategy.

Siskiyou County is estimated to have a beef cow herd of 29,000, plus calves, as well as a small dairy component (850 milk cows, 800 dairy heifers). The NASS all-cattle estimate for the county is 53,000 head for January 2013. Another significant component to the work in the area are the 12,150 horses/mules.

Note that Siskiyou County has 4 million plus acres with approximately 1.1 million acres dedicated to farmland and another 2.5 million is range/ forest land. The remaining 12 thousand acres are urbanized with 10 veterinarians focused on small animal work. Currently, there are no veterinarians dedicated to large animal practice.

For more information focused on Scott Valley in Siskiyou County:

<http://www.siskiyoudaily.com/article/20141230/NEWS/141239976/1994/NEWS>

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

There were five veterinarians that focused on large animal services (including equine). Two passed away, one has stopped providing large animal services due to health issues, and the other two are providing limited service as one is retired and the other is close to retirement, focusing on small animal work. Three primarily small animal veterinarians are providing some service because of the dire situation. Producers are having to resort to either dealing with problems themselves or asking for assistance from veterinarians in Redding, nearly 100 miles from the county seat of Yreka and much further to other areas in the county.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

Without appropriate access to veterinarians locally, animal care could suffer. However, even more importantly if there is not adequate surveillance, as provided by an accredited veterinarian, this area could be at risk to entry and then propagation without detection of significant FADs until it is too late. This is a rural county that relies on animal agriculture as one of the key sources of local employment. Anything that might impact animal agriculture here from devastating diseases to animal health care becoming too expensive because of reliance on distant veterinarians to prescribe antimicrobial drugs could reduce or eliminate animal agriculture and thereby impacting the local community.

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked on Page 1, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

| |
|---|
| % |
|---|

Minimum Service time required for each shortage type

Type I: 80 percent time or 32 hours/week

Type II: 30 percent time or 12 hours/week

Type III: 49 percent time or 19.6 hours/week

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

X By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.

X By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dr. Annette Jones

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: California Department of Food and Agriculture

Email: Annette.Jones@cdfa.ca.gov

Telephone Number: (916) 900-5000
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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